

**Watershed Protection Advisory Committee
Meeting Summary
May 23, 2014
State Capitol, Room 103
Des Moines, IA**

WPAC Representatives Present:

Ben Gleason, IA Corn Growers Association; Kevin Griggs, CDI; Luis Leon, IFSMA; Joe Bolkcom, IA Senate; Chuck Isenhardt, IA House; Jim Gillespie, IDALS-DSC; Rick Robinson, IFBF; Mike Delaney, ICA/Izaak Walton League; Cody McKinley, IPPA; Linda Kinman, IEC; John Torbert, IA Drainage District Assoc.; Jay Brady, IAWEA; Greg Sindt, IAWEA

Others Present:

John Lawrence, ISU; Adam Schnieders, IDNR; Matthew Lechtenberg, IDALS; Jake Hansen, IDALS; Deb Kozel, LSB; Duane Sand, INHF; Allen Bonini, IDNR; Jennifer Terry, IEC; Jace Mikels, Senate Democratic Research Staff; Mary Braun, House Democratic Research Staff,

Matt Lechtenberg, IDALS – Non-point Source Update

- Matt presented a map (attached) of the Water Quality Initiative – HUC 12 watershed projects.
- Projects awarded in the 1st round of funding for practices are listed on the INRS website.
- Water Quality Initiative was funded at \$4.4 million as requested in 2013.
- Appropriation for Iowa State University was reduced and nutrient trading was not funded.

Adam Schnieders, IDNR – Point-source Update

- 21 Facilities were issued permits from 9-1-2013 to 5-14-2014
- 6 Facilities are currently on public notice
- The technical work group met in December and continues to meet and discuss potential solutions for different load calculations techniques (Detailed report attached). Nitrogen is the primary focus and future meetings on phosphorus may be delayed until fall due to field work for most participants.

John Lawrence, ISU – Measures Sub-committee Update

The sub-committee has not met since the last meeting.

Another request to complete the ISU-Partner Survey will be sent to WPAC representatives.

There was a great discussion on the relationship of WPAC with WRCC and on how to formalize the process to make recommendations. The WRCC 2014 annual report is being drafted with a final draft deadline expected the first part of July. WPAC will be providing comments and recommendations.

Input for the INRS annual report will be sent to WPAC members. WPAC will compile comments and make recommendations to the Water Resources Coordinating Council (Regulatory content of the report is outlined below) on ways to strengthen the Strategy and will include questions regarding funding, monitoring, innovation, and how will we know the Strategy is working?

NOTE: It was indicated that changes to the report may not occur due to comments/recommendations submitted by WPAC.

WPAC next meeting July 17, 2014 at the Capitol

The next meeting of the **Hypoxia Taskforce** will be October 20-24, 2014 in Alton, IL

INRS Annual Report Content

7. Public Reporting - WRCC annual reports will document calculated or modeled load reductions from quantified best management practices and will document point source implementation efforts.

The WRCC will use survey data, a new Iowa Natural Resource Inventory of management practices, and physical landscape structures aggregated at the HUC 8 scale. The following shall be incorporated into the reports:

- a. Watershed management plans shall include strategies to assess/demonstrate progress in implementing and maintaining management activities and achieving load reductions goals. These strategies shall include baselines of existing N and P loads and current BMPs, including in-field and edge-of-field technologies, and shall be implemented in each targeted/priority HUC 12 sub-watershed. An evaluation of BMP effectiveness will be used in making future plan adjustments.
- b. Progress in reductions of TN and TP. Narrative updates on efforts detailed in the strategy for both point source and nonpoint source elements.
- c. The WRCC shall annually report publically on the state's website with request for comments and feedback for an adaptive management approach to improve implementation, strengthen collaborative local, county, state, and federal partnerships, and identify additional opportunities for accelerating cost effective N and P load reductions.
- d. The WRCC shall annually evaluate whether the Iowa Nutrient Reduction Strategy needs to be reviewed and updated. This evaluation shall be included in the annual report.